

Stimulated by vibrant young professional families and grounded by the wisdom, vision, and experience of a large senior population, Rancho Bernardo High School (RBHS), located in a suburban community in San Diego, California, is teeming with energetic activity. The ethnic and age diversity of the community provides a firm foundation and strongly impacts the educational experience of RBHS students. The students, along with the encouragement and support of the staff and families, have brought pride to the community and they took the school to new heights last year when Rancho Bernardo was recognized as a California Distinguished School.

Rancho Bernardo High School offers academic programs that are rigorous and challenging for all students. The programs include advanced placement courses in all academic areas, a model Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program, support courses in the areas of math and English, on-line courses in math and civics, a BRIDGES program for at-risk students (connecting the students to the Bronco community and paving avenues for success), a community mentor program, a ninth grade interdisciplinary academy, incredible visual and technical arts offerings, and academic courses that are linked tightly to academic standards. Technology also plays an incredible role in student learning. Presently, every classroom on campus is home to a minimum of one computer, in addition to the 24 in the Library Media Center. With the campus networked and computers having access to the Internet, modern technology is provided for all students, wherever they are on campus. Ultimately, the RBHS school community is anchored by its prime goal, All Students Learning—Whatever It Takes. This goal drives the competent and caring staff and fosters positive relationships with the citizens of Rancho Bernardo.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SVEN-PETER
MANNSFELD

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, one of my constituents and friends, a chemist and civic leader of the First District of Alabama, retired after a 36-year tenure with Degussa-Hüls Corporation. Dr. Sven-Peter Mannsfeld deserves to be recognized for his accomplishments and contributions.

The son of Dr. Wilhelm Mannsfeld and Dr. Margarita Mannsfeld, Dr. Sven-Peter Mannsfeld was born in Riga, Latvia, on July 24, 1935. He became a German citizen in 1939 and an American citizen in 1989. Now, he and his wife, Sybille Elise Spormann Mannsfeld, have three accomplished sons of their own, Percy, Boris and Andy.

Dr. Mannsfeld is a chemist. He studied at the "Max Planck Institut für Kohleforschung" in Rostock, Dresden, Bonn, and Göttingen, Germany and, finally, at the University of Göttingen where he earned his Masters in Chemistry and, later, his Ph.D. in Natural Sciences. In 1964, he began his career with

Degussa working for various plants in the Cologne region of Germany. Then, in 1971, he went on to the Degussa AG headquarters in Frankfurt where he worked in Project Management for Research, Development and Production Projects. Two years later Dr. Mannsfeld was put in charge of finding a site for a plant in the United States, and soon thereafter, Mobile welcomed Dr. Mannsfeld into the community.

In 1973, Dr. Mannsfeld became president of Degussa Alabama, Inc. and also served as Plant Manager for Degussa's Theodore Plant operations. Later, in 1977, he became the executive vice president of technology, engineering, and plant services for all Degussa sites in the United States. Finally, in 1999, Dr. Mannsfeld became the executive vice president and chief technical advisor to the CEO and a member of the Board of Directors of Degussa-Hüls Corporation. It is from this position that Dr. Mannsfeld has recently retired.

Bringing Degussa to Mobile was the singular vision of Dr. Mannsfeld and for nearly 30 years, Degussa and the citizens of south Alabama have benefited from this mutually beneficial relationship.

In addition to his service and leadership in Degussa, Dr. Mannsfeld has greatly contributed to the city of Mobile and all of Alabama. Shortly after becoming a United States citizen in 1989, Dr. Mannsfeld became chairman of the Business Council of Alabama in 1990. Following his Distinguished Service Cross award (in which the president of the Federal Republic of Germany presented him with the ribbon of the Distinguished Service Medal of the Republic), he was named Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany for Alabama. Dr. Mannsfeld was a participant from 1994 to 1997 in the Mercedes Alabama Project-Tuscaloosa, which ended up successfully bringing Mercedes-Benz to Alabama.

From 1995 to 1998, he was involved in the Mitsubishi Polysilicon Project in Mobile and from 1997 to 2000, with the Phenolchemie Mobile/Theodore Project. Additionally, he was instrumental in moving forward the important Theodore Industrial Park Dock Project. Finally, from 1998 to 2000, he participated in the Alabama Power Theodore Cogeneration Project. In 1999 Dr. Mannsfeld was named to the Board of Directors of Atlantic Marine Holding Company.

Dr. Mannsfeld's accomplishments and contributions do not end there, however. He additionally serves as a member of distinguished organizations such as the Mobile College Fellows, the American Chemical Engineers, the Midgulf Business Roundtable, the Alabama Chemical Association, the Board of Regents of Spring Hill College, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Advisory Council, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Alabama School of Math and Science. In addition to this already impressive and exhaustive list, Dr. Mannsfeld has served on the Board of Directors of Degussa Corporation, the Ultraform Company, Nilok, Inc., Compass Bank of Mobile, and the Board of Directors of the Business Council of Alabama.

Dr. Mannsfeld is also a former member of many other Boards of Directors. These include the National Association of Manufacturers, the Associated Industries of Alabama, the Ala-

bama Chemical Association, the Doctors Hospital, the YMCA-Chandler Branch, Mobile, WHIL Gulf Coast Public Broadcasting Company, the Mobile United Way, the Mobile United-Civic Organization, the Independent Colleges of Alabama, the Better Business Bureau, and the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Mannsfeld has added to the social aspect of Mobile and elsewhere through other noteworthy organizations. He belongs to the Corps Teutoni Hercynia Göttingen (a university fraternal organization), the Mobile Country Club, Ducks Unlimited, the Degussa Hunting Club, the Alabama Wildlife Federation, the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, the Audubon Society, the Mystical Carnival Society, and the U.S. Chess Federation.

Dr. Mannsfeld's contributions, both civic and business, have greatly impacted the citizens of south Alabama. While he has formally retired from the Degussa Corporation, it is my sincere hope and wish that south Alabama and the constituents I represent will continue to benefit from his presence and engagement in civic and business affairs.

Thank you, Dr. Mannsfeld, for all your many contributions to our community. May your retirement bring you many challenging, relaxing and enjoyable years.

CONGRATULATING HON. LEE
TERRY ON THE BIRTH OF HIS SON

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Republican freshman class, I would like to congratulate Congressman LEE TERRY of Nebraska on the birth of his baby boy, Jack William Terry.

On the fourth of July, at 11:40 p.m., Mr. TERRY and his wife, Robyn, welcomed an eight pound, seven ounce child into this world. We sincerely congratulate both Mr. and Mrs. Terry on this joyous occasion as they enter into their new life as parents. May God bless the gentleman from Nebraska and his new family, and may Jack Terry live a long and prosperous life.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID KATZ,
MUSIC DIRECTOR AND PRIN-
CIPAL CONDUCTOR OF ADRIAN
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 22, 2000, David Katz will conduct his final performance as music director and principal conductor of the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and OPERA! Lenawee. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate him on his past twelve seasons of service.

Under his leadership the Adrian Symphony has grown into one of Michigan's top five orchestras, has built its own professional opera

company, OPERA! Lenawee, hosted Itzhak Perlman as the most famous of dozens of exceptional solo artists, been cheered in dozens of venues in four countries and two states, and has made us more proud of our orchestra and more excited about great music than we ever thought possible.

David Katz worked to break down the barriers which often separate classical music and opera from many people, instituting educational programs for both adults and children. His programming of concerts continually challenge the musicians, as well as the audience, through presentation of a broad variety of music and through increasing the breadth and scope of programming offered, adding opera, ballet and chamber music to the Adrian Symphony Orchestra during his tenure.

David's devotion and determination to both the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and his community is to be applauded and I am honored to recognize him and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL WINNER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mesa Verde Middle School in Scripps Ranch and its leaders, Principal, Sonya Wrisley and Superintendent, Dr. Bob Reeves. Mesa Verde has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2000. I am proud to inform my colleagues that my district had an amazing record of eleven schools selected for that prestigious honor this year. I would also like to note that the Academy of Our Lady of Peace right outside my district in San Diego County was also named a Blue Ribbon School. I applaud the educators, students and communities in each of the San Diego County schools who pulled together in pursuit of educational excellence.

Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized as some of the nation's most successful institutions, and they are exemplary models for achieving educational excellence throughout the nation. Not only have they demonstrated excellence in academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum, but they have demonstrated exceptional levels of community and parental involvement, high student achievement levels and strong safety and discipline.

After schools are nominated by state education agencies for the Blue Ribbon award, they undergo a rigorous review of their programs, plans and activities. That is followed with visits by educational experts for evaluation. Ultimately, those schools which best demonstrate strong leadership, clear vision and mission, excellent teaching and curriculum, policies and practices that keep the schools safe for learning, family involvement and evidence of high standards are selected for this prestigious award. I am pleased that they are now receiving the national recognition they are due.

As school and community leaders head to Washington for the Department of Education

awards ceremony, I want to thank them once again for a job well done. More satisfying than any award, these leaders will have the lifelong satisfaction of having provided the best education possible and a better future for thousands of children. I am proud of what they have achieved, and want to share their achievements so that more people benefit from their accomplishments. I ask that a summary of Mesa Verde Middle School's superior work be included in the record:

Mesa Verde Middle School, located in Rancho Penasquitos, a suburb of northern San Diego, California, exemplifies the educational heights that can be attained when a solid partnership exists between school and community. All members of this team are completely committed to their philosophy of "doing everything possible to help each student succeed", while maintaining strong academic integrity. Their school vision for 2002 states that "Mesa Verde Middle School will create an enhanced learning experience and a unique community environment for all students." The success of Mesa Verde's rigorous curriculum is evidenced by consistently high performance on standardized tests and underscored by earning the maximum six-year Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation. Among their noteworthy accomplishments are two wellness programs. Mesa Verde's wellness budget enables them to have a teacher on special assignment (TOSA), devoting a full period each day to drug, alcohol, and tobacco prevention education. The second program, "Names Can Really Hurt You" was nationally recognized in Washington D.C. and fosters tolerance of diversity in the classroom and on campus. A 50% drop in negative name calling infractions best illustrates the success of this program.

Mesa Verde provides an excellent education to culturally and ethnically diverse middle class population. Their site is designed to accommodate students with a wide range of academic abilities and physical challenges. Designed with technology in mind, Mesa Verde has become Poway Unified School District's model school. Four computer labs are housed at Mesa Verde and each classroom is networked to the Internet and e-mail. A distinct feature of the campus is the village concept design. Classrooms are grouped together and house a single grade level.

And added strength of Mesa Verde is the varied "safety nets" in place to ensure that students progress and succeed socially as well as academically. Innovative programs such as Peer Mediation, Natural Helpers, Eagle Groups, and Student Outreach Services (SOS) teach students to deal effectively with their emotional needs and to interact successfully with their peers. A commitment to excellence is the cornerstone for all of Mesa Verde's programs. Providing excellence in all they do, Mesa Verde is exemplified by a dedicated, hardworking staff, who truly love children. They base all decisions on what is best for their students. The entire school community: staff, students, parents and community, works together to provide the best possible education for all students.

2000 PARALYMPICS

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, as the eyes of the world are fixed on Sydney, Australia, and the games of the 27th Olympiad, I rise to ask this House to glance closer to home, to Western New York, to share in an inspiring story of personal triumph and the spirit of athletic competition.

On Wednesday, September 20, 2000, friends and supporters will gather at the Rochester Yacht Club to lend their support to sailors Keith Burhans, Paul Callahan and Richard Hughes and their quest for gold at the 2000 Paralympics to be held next month in Sydney, Australia.

Burhans of Monroe County lost both legs in a 1995 boating accident. Callahan, of Newport, Rhode Island, has been a quadriplegic since college. And Hughes is an amputee from Philadelphia. The three formed a world-class team that finished second in last year's World Disabled Sailing Championship.

But their story is even greater than their ability to tack around the tetrahedrons faster than their competitors. They have used their personal experiences to teach others to overcome barriers and test their limits.

Callahan reorganized and became CEO of the Shake-A-Leg program for the disabled in Newport. And Burhans joined the board of the Rochester Rehabilitation Center, which organizes SportsNet, a similar program that allows those with physical disabilities to participate in the able-bodied sports world.

In what became the first race of one of the oldest competitions in sport, the America's Cup, a young Queen Victoria watched as the yacht "America" plowed across the finish line. When she asked her courtier to search the sea and identify which boat was second, he took a long look through his telescope and replied: "Your majesty, I regret to report, there is no second."

To Keith Burhans, Paul Callahan and Richard Hughes, I am pleased to report that your personal courage, your triumph over adversity, and your devotion to athletic competition has already made each of you, like the 1851 crew of the "America," a winner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House of Representatives join me in saluting the achievements of these three extraordinary men, and that we further extend to them the best of luck at the games of the 2000 Paralympics.

IN HONOR OF RUSSELL BINNEY

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a man who positively influenced the lives of many people. Earlier this month, Mr. Russell Binney of Ulysses, Kansas passed away. Russ fulfilled many important roles in his life—each of them with integrity, compassion, and dedication.